

THE TIE THAT BINDS

February 2016



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
204 E. Graves St. / P. O. Box 872
Burnet, Texas 78611
Phone: 512 756-2223

Rev. BJ Tapley
Church e-mail: fcburnet@fccburnettx.org
Church website: www.fccburnettx.org
Office hours: Monday–Thursday 9:00a–3:00p
Emergency contact: Bennie Clark 830 613-0395

From the Pastor . . .

1/27/16

You know, I have the greatest job in the world! I am privileged to serve a group of folks that is generous beyond measure with their time, their talents and abilities, their financial resources, and their prayers. We had no more than taken down the Advent and Christmas decorations in the church when we began talking about preparations for Lent and Easter.

The Worship Committee decided that they wanted to create our own Lenten Devotional written by each of us in the congregation. We knew this was going to be a large undertaking because there were 47 days of devotions to write, each with at least three different scripture passages that could be chosen, and we knew there was not a lot of time to complete it. So the Worship Committee asked, and you stepped up! All 47 devotions were signed up for in just one worship service and, as of this printing, there are only three devotionals left to receive.

As your Pastor, I am beaming with pride and the dedication and prayer that went into writing each of these devotionals! Some wrote longer devotionals, while others chose to use only a few precise words to convey their point; but each one I have read so far has been meaningful! I am proud and honored to serve such a prayerful and active congregation!

We are in the process of having our leaky roof repaired under the leadership of Jerry Hostetter as our Property Chair. This has been a much needed, and long overdue project. We have raised just over half the funds needed to pay for these repairs, so we ask that you continue to give as generously as you can, over and above your normal giving, to help us complete this project.

On Saturday, February 6th, we will be having a Leadership (All-Church) Retreat here at the church from 10-2 during which we will have some informative discussions about where we are as a church as well as working toward envisioning the why's how's and what's of the future of our church. These are big questions with difficult answers to articulate and no one knows what the future will hold.

continued on back

Building Relationships, Growing Faith, Welcoming All in Jesus Christ

And that is precisely the point: no one knows what the future will hold because we haven't created it yet. But in order to intentionally create our future, we need to know why we are going to do it, and then we can figure out the logistics of what to do and how to do it. What are your dreams for First Christian Church? An even better question is why are you a member of FCC (officially or unofficially)? Why did you start attending? Why do you keep attending?

My overall goal in the coming year is for each of us, each ministry, each group, each person, to look at figuring out why we do what we do? Is it just going through the motions? Does it fill our souls, helping us survive the rest of the week? Do we get up on Sunday mornings excited to come to church? I know I do, even when I would rather go back to sleep, because I am fortunate enough to serve a great, and loving, Church!

Grace and Peace,



A moment about Giving

A wise man (our very own Jon Blankenship) once said, "God likes drops in the bucket." He and I were talking about the needs of the world, and we often can become overwhelmed with the amount of need to the point that we can feel paralyzed, as if we couldn't even begin to fulfill them. But all it takes is just a drop in the bucket to begin taking care of the needs of others, because your one drop plus my one drop and the one drop of countless others begins to amount to great things happening.

Because of each of our "one drops" we are able to do great things through the ministries of First Christian Church, and it is our prayer that we all will continue to grow our drops so they become the primers of answers to prayers yet uttered.

GENERAL CHECKING ACCOUNT

November 30, 2015		
Balance		\$33,276.27
Dec 2015 Deposits		
General Fund	\$9,309.54	
Designated	\$2,627.60	\$11,937.14
Dec 2015 Disbursements		
Budgeted/General Fund	(\$9,910.11)	
Other Fund/Pass-		
Through	(\$2,391.24)	(\$12,301.35)
December 31, 2015		
Balance		<u>\$32,912.06</u>



Grover is Asking Another Favor!

Spring and Easter are right around the corner - what a great time of the year this is. Today, I would like to talk about our upcoming All Church Retreat on February 6th. This is an opportunity for us all to meet and share thoughts, ideas, and dreams of where we want to go with our Church. Many subjects will be covered; to name a couple, Financial Health of FCC and what programs are important to us and why. By attending the retreat, you will play an important role in the future of our wonderful little Church. The favor I am asking is for each and every one, please, try to attend. Everyone's input is important. I Love this Church!

Grover Howell
Moderator



The Worship Committee has been busy planning for the upcoming Lenten Season. The Season of Lent begins on February 10th with our **Ash Wednesday Service** beginning at **6:00pm**. There will be **Lenten Devotionals** available on **Sunday, February 7th**. This year our church members are writing the devotionals, so we encourage everyone to please read them prayerfully each day of the Lenten season! We will also have **prayer rocks** to hand out on **February 7th**. These will be to remind us every day what this **Season** is truly about!

We want to thank the Worship Committee members for their eagerness to serve this year! Also, thank you to everyone for participating so willingly in our Devotionals!

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday February 3rd at 4:00pm**.

Blessings to everyone,
Susan Clark and Ron Petrick
Worship Co-Chairs



Our annual Leadership Retreat will be on **Saturday February 6th from 10:00a – 2:00p** on here at FCC Burnet in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be provided and a love offering will be accepted. All Officers, Trustees, Elders, Deacons and Staff are expected to attend. Please let Pastor BJ know if you have an unavoidable conflict. Come help us envision and shape the future here at FCC Burnet.



The **Ash Wednesday Service** on **February 10th at 6:00 pm** will mark the beginning of our Lenten journey.



On behalf of the Board and clients of Lakes Area Care (LACare) we thank the membership of your church for the generous support of our mission to feed the hungry living in Burnet Consolidated Independent School District during 2015. Because of your support for LACare in 2015, we were able to serve 204 new families and 13,877 individuals. We provided food once a month to the families.

Your continued support makes all of this possible. In these challenging economic times, we know that being a generous donor can be difficult. We are blessed to have people like you in our community to assist our programs. Thank you again for your generosity and support.

Sincerely,
Marjorie A. Bronk
LACare Board President



The Disciples Women did not meet in January so it's left us asking "What is the future of DWM?" At this point, no one has expressed an interest in hosting a meeting. Is it your busy

schedule or a lack of interest? Whatever your opinion, I need some feedback. **Please call or respond by email with some feedback.** Thanks. 830) 265-8462 marilynpetrick@gmail.com

Marilyn Petrick
DWM Representative



Backpack Buddies Report

We had 60 individual servings donated! Thanks for supporting this program and giving some extra weekend food to hungry children.



Mark your calendars as we begin a new year!

As Elders, we have more responsibilities than just serving at the Communion Table. We're here to support our minister and to take care of the members of our care groups. So if you need anything, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Elders in your care group.

The Elders have decided to start randomly selecting eight (8) people from our Care Groups each month, one for each Elder. That Elder will be sending the person they select a card informing them that they have been selected to be the focus of that Elder's prayers for the month. So don't be surprised when you get your card in the mail.

Bennie Clark, Elder Chair.

Celeste Bruton and Marilyn Petrick will co-chair the **Deacons** this year. We have a good team and are off to a good start.

Celeste & Marilyn
Deacon Co-Chairs



At the last Disciples Men meeting held on January 16, we planned the meal and duties for our first time to host Monday's Kitchen the third Monday of February. During the monthly breakfast of venison sausage (man size, see

photo below), eggs and pancakes we then had a short devotional. The **Bluebonnet Area Disciples Men retreat** is scheduled for **February 19 and 20, 2016 at Disciples Conference Center – Gonzales, Texas.** Registrations are in the church office and the information center. The General Conference of Disciples Men have announced a date **change** for every four-year event "**Sessions 2016**" at the **TCU campus.** The schedule has been changed to **July 8-10.** Many plans are being made with top notch Keynoters and Workshops catered to MEN. The Theme is "**YOU ARE CALLED BY NAME**" Isaiah 43:1-2. Registration and information for the event can be found at www.sessions2016.org.

Our next Men's meeting will be on Saturday February 20th at 8:00am.

Ron Petrick



What a blessing it is to sing praises! And we love it when we hear you singing along with us. Don't worry - we won't come and draft you for the choir - but we reserve the right to ask! We have lots of new music to try and we are already preparing for the special days of Lent and Easter. And we still love to sing your favorites. Please let us know your requests whether for the choir or the congregation. Let's praise Him together!

Susie Rodgers



OUTREACH MINISTRY REPORT

Since 1990, young people have been leading the charge and inspiring others to collect food and dollars before the big "Super Bowl" game on February 7, 2016. It is a way to strengthen our commitment to tackling hunger in our community and encouraging others to do the same.



THE SOUPER BOWL OF CARING began with this simple prayer from a single youth group: *"Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup of eat."*

Let's be part of this movement that is sharing God's love with those in need. **Souper Bowl of Caring 2016** will be on **Sunday, February 7, 2015**. Please bring a can or two of soup for LACare. There will be a collection tub in the foyer.

Upcoming Outreach Activities:

Remember **Monday's Kitchen**. Volunteers and funds are always welcome!!!!

There will be a special offering collected for **Week of Compassion on February 21st & 28th**. Please see the bulletin for more information.

Noisy Offering was collected on January 3 in the amount of \$93.10. From Dec. 28th through Jan. 25th Monday's Kitchen served 221 meals and donations of \$140.21 were received.

Ronda Hostetter
Outreach Chair

PRC meeting

The next Pastoral Relations Committee meeting will be **Tuesday March 8th at 6:00pm**.

2016 Committee members:

Walter Selcer Charolette Collie
*Ronda Hostetter Jim Nance
Susan Clark Brenda Williams

MONDAY'S KITCHEN SCHEDULE OF WORKERS FEBRUARY 2016

February 1, 2016

Set Up: Celeste Bruton
Cook: 1) Susan & Bennie Clark
Bake: 1) Celeste Bruton
Serve: 1) Janie Howell
 2) Celeste Bruton
 3) Linda Guess
Clean-Up: 1) Dave Bowmaster

February 8, 2016

Set Up: Sharon Childers/
 Celeste Bruton
Cook: 1) Lisa Nance
Bake: 1) Sharon Childers
Serve: 1) Sharon Childers
 2) Maedel Hearn
 3) Karol Shepherd
Clean-Up: 1) Lisa Nance

February 15, 2016

Disciples Men

February 22, 2016

Epicenter

February 29, 2016

Set Up: Sharon Childers/
 Celeste Bruton
Cook: 1) Sharon Childers
Bake: 1) Lutheran volunteers
Serve: 1) Maedel Hearn
 2) Karol Shepherd
 3) Linda Guess
Clean-Up: 1) Lisa Nance

Committee Chairs

Remember that **you have a mail slot** located in the copy room. Please remember to check your boxes regularly. Thank you.



EDUCATION

The Youth have started studying the **Book of Revelation** in preparation of **Bible Olympics** in **April**. If anyone would like to join us, please let Pastor BJ or myself know and begin looking at Revelation and plan on being on our team - everyone is welcome!

God Bless,
Brenda



Thank you so much for the donations for "Elves for the Elderly" program. Our seniors appreciate it so much!

Jamie

Dear church,
Thank you so much for your generous "Love Offering" and birthday wishes. It has been my pleasure to serve as your secretary these past 4 1/2 years. What a blessing you are to me and what joy it is to work with all of you.

With much appreciation,
Denise

PROPERTY REPORT

Star Roofing did start and complete the first phase of our roofing project. The first phase was repairing the flashing up against the side of the building and the four (4) valleys. Thursday, January 28th, they are supposed to come raise the gutters, and add custom pieces on top of the gutters which will help slow the flow of water to the lower levels.

Jerry Hostetter
Property Chair

LACare Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

LACare will be having their annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on **Tuesday February 2nd**, at **6:30pm**. The dinner will be held here at **First Christian Church**, and will be hosted by Burnet Presbyterian Church. They plan to serve beef stew, strawberry & spinach salad, and bread, with peach cobbler for dessert. The volunteer of the year will be named at the banquet. **Please RSVP by Friday Jan. 29th** to Janet Basey at 512) 796-4679. We hope you join us for fellowship & celebration of our LACare volunteers.

**ECUMENICAL SERVICE FOR
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2016
12:00 noon**

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
A light lunch will be served afterward



World Day of Prayer is a global, ecumenical movement of Christian women joined together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday of March. Our motto of "Informed Prayers and Prayerful Action" signifies that prayer and action are inseparable.

The symbol for World Day of Prayer was developed by the women of Ireland and adopted as the international logo in 1982. Its design is made up of arrows converging from the four points of the compass, persons kneeling in prayer, the Celtic cross, and the circle, representing the world and our unity through all our diversity.

World Day of Prayer was started in the United States in 1887 by Mary Ellen Jones, the wife of a Presbyterian minister who asked for a day to pray for home missions. The idea caught on and the Methodist women added foreign missions to the prayer day. Two years later the Baptist women boldly proclaimed that the whole world should be included on this special day!

By 1930 the idea of a World Day of Prayer had spread to Canada and the British Isles. Catholic women were allowed to participate by a decree from the 2nd Vatican Council in 1967. Today over 170 countries participate! **COME JOIN US IN PRAYER.**



First Christian Church Burnet February 2016 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 12:00 AA 4:30 Monday's Kitchen	2 12:00 AA 6:30 LACare Volunteer Appreciation Dinner	3 10:00 Bible Study 12:00 AA 4:00 Worship Comm. 5:30 Choir 7:00 AA	4 12:00 AA	5 12:00 AA	6 10:00 Leadership Retreat till 2:00p <i>Lunch will be provided for a love offering</i> 7:00 AA
7 <i>Transfiguration</i> 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship, Noisy Offering Souper Bowl of Caring Fellowship Lunch 2:00 AA Dist. Meeting	8 12:00 AA 4:30 Monday's Kitchen	9 12:00 AA 5:15 Choir	10 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 8:45 LACare Board 10:00 Bible Study 12:00 AA 6:00 Ash Wednesday Worship service 7:00 AA	11 12:00 AA 6:00 Elders 7:00 Board	12 12:00 AA	13 9:00 Disciples Women's Breakfast 7:00 AA
14 <i>Lent-1</i> 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	15 Pastor BJ out for Minister's Week at Brite 12:00 AA 4:30 Monday's Kitchen	16 12:00 AA 7:00 Compassionate Friends	17 10:00 Bible Study 12:00 AA 5:30 Choir 7:00 AA	18 12:00 AA	19 12:00 AA	20 8:00 Disciples Men's Breakfast 7:00 AA
21 <i>Lent-2</i> 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	22 <i>Newsletter articles due</i> 12:00 AA 4:30 Monday's Kitchen	23 12:00 AA	24 10:00 Bible Study 12:00 AA 5:30 Choir 7:00 AA	25 12:00 AA	26 12:00 AA	27 7:00 AA
28 <i>Lent-3</i> 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	29 12:00 AA 2:00 *FCW at OMOS 4:30 Monday's Kitchen					

*Fellowship of Church Women will meet at Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic Church

Birthdays in February

Kay Snyder	2	Ron Petrick	15
Mary Alice Ross	5	Peggy Spiekermann	21
Teri Howell	11	Clayton Evans	29



*Please let us know if we don't have your birthday listed.
We want to get it right.*

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

February 2016

Serving Schedule

Feb. 7 Luke 9:28-43a "Who Is This Guy That Transforms Us?" ***If you are unable to serve on the day you are scheduled, please find a replacement and write the change on the Serving Schedule on the bulletin board by the church office.

Feb. 14 Luke 4:1-13 "Light Versus Darkness"

Feb. 21 Luke 13:31-35 "Light in the Distance"

Feb. 28 Luke 13:1-9 "The Light Around the the Light Within"

Date	Elders	Deacons	Jr. Deacon	Multi Media	Worship Leaders	Children's Moment	Counters	Acolytes
2/7	(SM & B) Grover Howell (CI & W) Walter Selcer	James Engen Jennifer Engen Cricket Branon Yvonne Evans	Alayna Engen	Bennie Clark	Ron Petrick	Jennifer Engen	Charolette Collie	Adam Engen
2/14	(SM & B) Bennie Clark (CI & W) Brenda Williams	George Smith Liz Smith Linda Guess Terry Matlock Jim Nance	Cheyenne Steve	Walter Selcer	Grover Howell	Brenda Williams	<i>need volunteer</i>	Katlyn Williams
2/21	(SM & B) Jon Blankenship (CI & W) Susan Clark	Karol Shepherd Ronda Hostetter Jerry Hostetter	Alayna Engen	Ron Petrick	Sharon Tippie	Jon Blankenship	<i>need volunteer</i>	Haylee Williams
2/28	(SM & B) Allen Rodgers (CI & W) Ernie Spiekermann	Marilyn Petrick Celeste Bruton Charolette Collie Cricket Branon	Cheyenne Steve	Bennie Clark	Jerry Hostetter	Marilyn Petrick	Charolette Collie	Adam Engen

CI = Communion Invitation; SM = Stewardship Meditation; B = Prayer for Bread; W = Prayer for Cup

Preparation of Communion: Liz Smith

First Christian Church
P O Box 872
Burnet TX 78611

THE TIE THAT BINDS

February 2016

Building Relationships; Growing Faith; Welcoming All in Jesus Christ

2016 Leadership Team

Moderator.....Grover Howell
Vice Moderator.....Ron Petrick
Secretary.....Lana Orr
Treasurer.....Bennie Clark
Historian.....Kay Snyder
Education.....Brenda Williams
Faith-Sharing.....Paula Harris
Membership..... Kay Snyder
Outreach..... Ronda Hostetter
Property.....Jerry Hostetter
Worship..... Susan Clark, Ron Petrick
Disciples Men Rep...... Ron Petrick
Disciples Women Rep......Marilyn Petrick

Pastoral Relations Committee:

Walter Selcer Susan Clark Jim Nance
*Ronda Hostetter Charolette Collie Brenda Williams

Trustees:

Auda Ross
Walter Selcer
Paula Harris

Elders:

Ernie Spiekermann
Walter Selcer
Grover Howell
*Bennie Clark
Susan Clark
Allen Rodgers
Jon Blankenship
Brenda Williams

Jr. Deacons:

Alayna Engen
Cheyenne Steve

Deacons:

Yvonne Evans
*Celeste Bruton
Jerry Hostetter
Ronda Hostetter
Karol Shepherd
Cricket Branon
Charolette Collie
Linda Guess
Terry Matlock
*Marilyn Petrick
James Engen
Jennifer Engen
George Smith
Liz Smith
Jim Nance

* = chairpersons